

# County of Los Angeles Fire Department

## Rotating Electric Outages

[www.lacofd.org](http://www.lacofd.org)



### **What's the Problem?**

In recent months, energy shortages in California have created a potential emergency for residents and businesses using electricity. This could lead to temporary planned rotating electric outages.

- Planned rotating electric outages prevent statewide loss of electricity
- A Stage III power emergency indicates rotating electric outages **may occur** in your area
- Rotating electric outages usually last one hour
- Rotating electric outages are spread throughout California
- You may have power while your neighbor does not

### **How Will I Know?**

- Listen to radio or television for information
- You will probably not receive advanced notice

### **Will I Be Affected?**

- Some Southern California Edison customers **will probably** be affected
- Customers of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, and other municipal electric utilities will **probably not** be affected
- Check your electric or utility bill to determine your provider
- For questions, call the customer service number on your electric or utility bill
- Southern California Edison (800) 655-4555, [www.sce.com](http://www.sce.com) Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (800) 342-5397, [www.dpw.com](http://www.dpw.com)

### **What Could Be Affected?**

- Household lights and appliances
- Traffic signals
- Health related equipment
- Elevators and escalators

### **Contact Information**

For preparedness information contact:

- City of Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Department (213) 485-5231
- American Red Cross (213) 739-4500, [www.acrossla.org](http://www.acrossla.org)
- City of Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness Information Helpline (888) 356-4661
- Emergency Network Los Angeles (213) 896-9185
- Info Line (800) 339-6993
- Earthquake Survival Program/Office of Emergency Management (213) 974-1166, [www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com)
- Los Angeles County Fire Department, [www.lacofd.org](http://www.lacofd.org)

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**Preparedness**  
**Before**

- Conserve energy by:
  - Setting your thermostat at 78 degrees during summer, 68 degrees during winter
  - Not using large appliances such as air conditioner, pool pump, clothes washer and electric dryer during peak times
    - Peak winter hours: 4pm to 8p.m.
    - Peak summer hours: noon to 6p.m.
  - Closing drapes and blinds to keep heat/cold out
  - Weather-stripping doors and windows
  - Replacing incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent
  - Limit decorative lighting
- Have flashlights, radios and clocks, with extra batteries
- People with special medical needs or equipment should be ready for electric outages
- Know how to operate your generator safely, read the directions
- Plan ahead with your neighborhood watch group
- Know how to operate your garage door without electricity
- Have a non-cordless telephone in case of an electric outage
- Have a working, non-electric, smoke detector (battery powered)
- Plan to use stairs, instead of elevators, during outages
- Avoid using elevators during Stage III alerts
- Notify your Floor Warden or Building Coordinator of any special needs
- Know the location of emergency exits
- Know the evacuation plan
- Make sure your cellular phone battery is charged
- Have a Dependent Care Plan for those that you provide immediate care for.

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	<b><u>Do</u></b>	<b><u>Do not</u></b>
<b>During</b>	Stay calm Use flashlights or light sticks for lighting Turn off all appliances Turn off all but one light switch Monitor radio for information Check on those with medical needs Drive carefully: traffic signals may be out	Do <b>not</b> call 911 due to power outage Do <b>not</b> use candles for lighting Do <b>not</b> use oven for heating Do <b>not</b> use barbecue indoors for heating Do <b>not</b> use barbecue indoors for cooking Do <b>not</b> use propane indoors
<b>After</b>	Conserve energy Reset all electrical equipment safely Continue to drive safely; power may be out in other areas	